

Public Information Statement
National Weather Service Albany NY
300 PM EDT Mon Oct 31 2022

...October 30 To November 5 is Winter Weather Awareness Week in New York and New England...

Preparation is the key to reducing the effects of severe winter weather. The following is a collection of winter weather safety tips.

When driving, allow extra time to get to your destination. Keep extra distance between you and other vehicles and slow down on ice or snow covered roads. Turn on your headlights while driving in rain or snow.

For warmth, dress in layers and wear a hat and gloves. If you suspect hypothermia, a victim must be rewarmed and should be seen by a doctor. Prevent further heat loss by wrapping the victim in a warm blanket and applying either heating pads or warm water bottles to the abdomen. If the victim is alert, give small quantities of warm food and drink. Do not give alcohol.

If your children walk to school, have them carry a backpack for books and papers. If possible, select outer garments with reflective markings. Listen to the radio or television for school cancellations or delays.

Prepare for possible power outages during winter storms from wet snow, wind or ice. Keep an adequate supply of wood for fireplaces or wood stoves, or kerosene for space heaters. If possible, have emergency heating equipment or a generator available to keep at least one room warm. Do not run generators indoors or in attached garages. While sleeping, several lightweight blankets are warmer than one heavy one.

If you use an electric space heater during cold weather, do not overload the circuit. Use extension cords which have the necessary rating to carry the electrical load. If your pipes freeze, thaw them with hot air from a hair dryer. Do not use a torch. Make sure your furnace exhaust is not blocked by deep snow.

If you need more information on paying for energy in your home or believe your heat has been turned off without proper notification, call the New York Public Service Commission toll free hotline at 1-800-342-3355, or the New York Temporary Assistance Program at 1-800-342-3009.

NOAA Weather Radio offers one way to receive immediate relay of any winter weather warnings. Many local television and radio stations also broadcast weather alerts. Computers, wireless devices and smartphone applications can alert you of threatening weather by relaying National Weather Service warnings.

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NWS Albany